

Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

SAB-01 AID-05 OMB-01 /082 W
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R 242020Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8303

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

USUN 351

UNCLAS BOGOTA 3780

3.O. 11652: NA

SUBJECT: PANAMA'S FONMIN TACK VISITS BOGOTA

REF: BRASILIA 3033

1. PANAMANIAN FONMIN TACK ARRIVED IN BOGOTA NIGHT OF APRIL 23 FOR A ONE-DAY VISIT, DURING WHICH HE WILL MEET WITH PRESIDENT LOPEZ, FONMIN LIEVANO AND OTHER GOC OFFICIALS.

2. UPON HIS ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT, WHERE HE WAS RECEIVED BY LIEVANO, TACK SAID "WE ASPIRE TO HAVE A PANAMANIAN CANAL IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME" AND ADDED "I BELIEVE THIS MOMENT IS OPPORTUNE...THAT WE MAKE THE MOST COMPLETE EVALUATION POSSIBLE OF HOW WORLD EVENTS MAY INFLUENCE LATIN AMERICA, OUR RELATIONS WITH THE U.S., OUR FUTURE PROSPECTS. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE "WORLD EVENTS" MIGHT INCLUDE THE CANCELLATION OF THE SECRETARY'S LATIN AMERICAN VISIT TACK ANSWERED "YES, WE HOPED THAT PANAMA CANAL SOVEREIGNTY WAS ONE OF THEMES THAT WOULD BE DISCUSSED BY (THE SECRETARY) AND THE LEADERS OF THE COUNTRIES HE WAS GOING TO VISIT". IN ANOTHER REPLY TACK INDICATED

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THAT THERE EXISTED AN "ADEQUATE ATMOSPHERE" ON BOTH SIDES TO

TRY TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS SUCCESSFULLY.

3. ON THE SUBJECT OF OAS REFORM, TACK SAID PANAMANIAN "HAD REACHED THE CONCLUSION THAT A LATIN AMERICAN SYSTEM HAS NEVER EXISTED" AND A "REAL OAS REFORM REQUIRED A MEETING OF CHIEFS OF STATE AND FONMINS TO DISCUSS WHAT THE SYSTEM SHOULD BE". HE ALSO FAVORED RAISING THE QUESTION OF CUBAN SANCTIONS AT THE NEXT OAS MEETING.

4. TACK REPORTEDLY CARRIED A MESSAGE FROM LAKAS TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ.

5. LIEVANO REFERRED WITH SATISFACTION TO THE COLOMBO-PANAMANIAN DIALOGUE WHICH HAS FURTHERED SOLIDARITY BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

6. PRESS COVERAGE HAS BEEN SPARSE WITH APRIL 24 EL TIEMPO DEVOTING A BRIEF ARTICLE TO THE VISIT ON A BACK PAGE AND EL ESPECTADOR RUNNING AN INCONSPICUOUS TWO PARA ON PAGE ONE WHICH CONTINUED ON AN INTERIOR PAGE.

7. TACK AND HIS PARTY, WHICH INCLUDES PANAMA'S UN AMB AQUILINO BOYD AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISOR JORGE ILLUECA WILL DEPART BOGOTA FOR PANAMA TONIGHT.

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